

## **LIFE BALL 2019: Special exhibition "United in Diversity" at the Hofmobiliendepot**

The Hofmobiliendepot · Imperial Furniture Collection will exclusively display costumes and accessories from this year's Style Bible on the subject of "United in Diversity" in a special exhibition.

*In cooperation with the Schloß Schönbrunn Kultur- und Betriebsges.m.b.H and architects of Ebner Hasenauer Ferenczy ZT GmbH a special exhibition will be shown at the Hofmobiliendepot. For the first time, costumes and accessories from this year's Style Bible as well as some selected exhibits from past productions will be shown. The exhibition can be seen from May 17 to September 15, 2019.*

"The goal is to capture and reflect the costumes of this year's Life Ball in conjunction with the history of LGBT movement from the Stonewall Rebellion in New York City over 26 years of Life Ball in Vienna. We have integrated all of this into the historically protected premises of the museum," says Stephan Ferenczy, who has already been socially engaged with his architectural office BEHF in the past and has been awarded the Edelman Health Aids and Employment Award.

The concept of the exhibition is to introduce the viewer to this year's Style Bible costumes through strong contrasts similar to a darkened panopticon. For this, the showroom is divided in length - in a black and a white half. The two halves not only stand for "light and dark" or "inside and outside", but are also intended to show the still-lived separatism in our society.

"It was particularly important to us not only to show pretty costumes, but also to point out the still existing black and white thinking in society in the exhibition design. I am especially happy about the cooperation with the Hofmobiliendepot. The apparent contrast between time-honored furniture and the shrillness of some of the Style Bible outfits is an optical and substantive diversity that creates a link between tradition and modernity," says Gery Keszler, chairman of the LIFE + and Life Ball founder. In addition, charts give a glimpse into the history of the Life Ball as well as the happenings in New York in 1969 and the achievements of the LGBT movement in Austria since the so-called Stonewall Riots.

Klaus Panholzer, Managing Director of Schloß Schönbrunn Kultur- und Betriebsges.m.b.H. (SKB), was enthusiastic about the collaboration right from the start: "At the Hofmobiliendepot · Imperial Furniture Collection, we take our visitors on a design journey through time and with the special exhibition "United in Diversity" we invite them to a journey through Life Ball and its

history. On the one hand, we want to create a general awareness of HIV/AIDS. On the other hand, we want to make our guests aware of this fact - all, but especially school classes and young people. Further, the EuroPride will take place in Vienna in 2019, so we also expect a high level of international interest. Especially with our special exhibitions, we have the opportunity to take up socio-political issues and bring them closer to our visitors."

The Hofmobiliendepot as an exhibition venue represents a unique mixture of museum, warehouse, workshop and administration. It has a significant collection of furniture. and has been showing living culture from five centuries for 20 years now. The spectrum spans from the presentation of imperial furniture to various furnishing styles such as Biedermeier, historicism and Viennese Modernism, all the way to contemporary furniture design. In keeping with the emphasis of the collection, the Hofmobiliendepot will be presenting a permanent exhibition as well as temporary special exhibitions.

The exhibition titled "United in Diversity" will be on view from 17 May to 15 September 2019 at the Hofmobiliendepot · Imperial Furniture Collection, Andreasgasse 7, 1070 Vienna. The Style Bible 2019 as the exhibition catalog and will be available for purchase in the museum shop.

More information: [info@hofmobiliendepot.at](mailto:info@hofmobiliendepot.at), [www.hofmobiliendepot.at](http://www.hofmobiliendepot.at) and on our homepage <https://lifeplus.org/>.

**For further question please contact:**

Barbara Vogel, Bakk.phil. BA  
Press & Public Affairs  
LIFE+ | LIFE BALL  
Verein LIFE+  
Tel: +43 1 5955600 – 27  
Email: [kommunikation@lifeball.org](mailto:kommunikation@lifeball.org)

Mag.<sup>a</sup> Evelyn Larcher  
Presse- und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit Produktmarketing  
Schloß Schönbrunn Kultur- und Betriebsges.m.b.H.  
Tel.: +43 1 811 13 340  
E-Mail: [larcher@schoenbrunn.at](mailto:larcher@schoenbrunn.at)

Mag.a Petra Reiner  
Stabstelle Unternehmenskommunikation und Pressesprecherin  
Schloß Schönbrunn Kultur- und Betriebsges.m.b.H.  
Tel.: +43 1 811 13 461  
E-Mail: [reiner@schoenbrunn.at](mailto:reiner@schoenbrunn.at)